

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 were previously pending in the application. Claims 1-13 are canceled and Claim 14 is amended to correct a typographical error.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 14-17 are allowed. Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing these claims.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1, 2, 4, and 6-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,046,256 to Credelle. All these claims are canceled.

Claim Rejections -- 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 3, 5, 12, and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Credelle in view of U.S. Published Patent Application No. 2002/0047923 to Okuno et al. The rejected claims are canceled.

Conclusion

In view of the remarks set forth above, it is submitted that the application is now in condition for allowance. Authorization is given to charge any fees due or credit any overpayments in regard to this communication to deposit account 50-5029. If the Examiner has any questions or concerns, a telephone call to the undersigned at (408) 331-1672 is welcomed and encouraged.

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